

Amendment to the specification::

Please amend paragraph [0001] at page 1 as follows:

[0001] This application is related to the following U.S. Patent Applications:

Serial No. 10/643,629~~10/~~_____, entitled FREQUENT ITEMSET COUNTING USING CLUSTERED PREFIXES AND INDEX SUPPORT, (~~Attorney Docket No. 50277-2248~~), filed on ~~the same day herewith~~ August 18, 2003; and

Serial No. 10/643,628~~10/~~_____, entitled EXPRESSING FREQUENT ITEMSET COUNTING OPERATIONS, (~~Attorney Docket No. 50277-2250~~), filed on August 18, 2003~~the same day herewith~~;

the contents of which are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety.

Please amend paragraph [0111] at page 26 as follows:

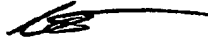
[0111] The combination associated with a bitmap may be used as the index key for determining where within the index to place the entry for the bitmap. According to one embodiment, a bitmap index is used to store the bitmaps. Each entry within the bitmap index is associated with a combination, and includes the bitmap for the combination. Within the bitmap index, the bitmaps may be compressed to preserve space. In addition, when a stored bitmap is needed during a frequent itemset operation, it is possible to load selected portions of the bitmap into volatile memory, rather ~~then~~ than the entire bitmap.

Please charge any deficiency of fee or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No.

50-1302.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents Washington, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 9, 2003.

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December 9, 2003
Date Signed